

- 1) (original) A method for fusing a first vertebra to a second adjacent vertebra, the method comprising:
  - a) providing an implant, the implant comprising a body having first and second opposite surfaces, wherein each of the surfaces includes at least one protruding member for securing the body to an adjacent vertebra and wherein the implant has sufficient tensile and sheer strength to permit fusion of the vertebrae and each of the surfaces and protruding members includes a bioactive coating;
  - b) forming at least one keyway in the first vertebra corresponding to each of the at least one protruding members on the first surface and at least one keyway in the second vertebra corresponding to each of the at least one protruding members on the second surface; and
  - c) inserting the implant between the first vertebrae and the second vertebra in a manner so that each protruding member slides into the corresponding keyway,such that fusion of the vertebrae is achieved without a bone graft.
- 2) (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the opposite surfaces of the implant includes a plurality of protruding members.
- 3) (cancelled).
- 4) (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one protruding member of the implant has a profile including a generally arcuate portion that encompasses more than one hundred and eighty degrees.